

Applicants have provisionally elected, with traverse and for search purposes only, Species A, which has a vinyl polymer as the polymeric material, for examination. Claims 29-31, 32-34, 37-45, and 48-53 read on the elected species

Applicants respectfully traverse the Election of Species Requirement on the grounds that the Office has not applied the same standard of unity of invention as the International Preliminary Examination Authority. The Authority did not take the position that unity of invention was lacking in the International application and examined all claims and species together. Applicants note that PCT Article 27(l) states:

No national law shall require compliance with requirements relating to the form or contents of the international application different from or additional to those which are provided for in this Treaty and the Regulations.

Applicants request withdrawal of the Election of Species requirement.

Applicants further traverse on the grounds that the Species A and Species B both possess the common special technical feature of being capable of being modified by the process of Claim 29. Withdrawal of the Election of Species requirement is requested.

With respect to the elected species, Applicants respectfully submit that, should the elected species be found allowable, the Office should expand its search to the non-elected species.

Finally, Applicants respectfully submit that the Office has not shown that a serious burden exists in searching the entire application.

Applicants submit this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Application Serial No.: 10/030,144

Response to the Election Requirement mailed July 26, 2005

Customer Number

22850

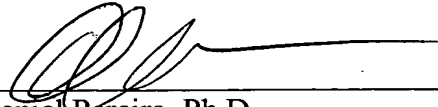
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(OSMMN 08/03)

Respectfully submitted,

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Norman F. Oblon

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Pereira', is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Pereira, Ph.D.

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